# Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 COME-00 MMO-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 OES-07 CU-06 AGRE-00 HEW-06 DIWY-01 /072 W -------030489 091535Z /50

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ECRUP, UV

SUBJECT: CERP 0008-EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REF: STATE AIRGRAM A-2507

1. SUMMARY: UNDP RES REP IS PROVIDING MAJOR ASSISTANCE TO GOUV IN AREAS WHERE NEED IS GREATEST. BOTH UNDP AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES HAVE IMPLEMENTATION PROBLEMS, BUT THEY ARE NO GREATER THAN THOSE OF OTHER DONORS. TRIPARTITE REVIEW SYSTEM HAS BEEN MOST EFFECTIVE AND GOUV HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY ACTIVE IN PROJECT EVALUATION. UNDP RES REP IS PLAYING AN EFFECTIVE COORDINATING ROLE IN THE UN SYSTEM. HOWEVER, GOUV STILL HAS NOT ALLOWED THE UNDP RES REP TO ACT AS COORDINATOR OF OTHER DONOR ASSISTANCE, ALTHOUGH GOUV HAS ASKED UNDP TO CONTINUE TO ASSIST IN MOBILIZING MULTI-DONOR ASSISTANCE. CONCERN FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IS EXPRESSED IN IMPORTANCE OF UNDP INVOLVMENT WITH VOLTAIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMENTS ON UPPER VOLTA UNDP PROGRAM, PREPARED BY CDO OUAGADOUGOU, ARE KEYED:

A. IMPORTANCE OF UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRY'S TOTAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS.

UN PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO GOUV. UNCLASSIFIED

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UN COMMITMENTS IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS ARE ESTIMATED TO BE 20 PERCENT OF ALL EXTERNAL DONOR ASSISTANCE. THIS, HOWEVER, INCLUDES ALL IBRD AND IDA ISSISTANCE. DURING APRIL 1977, VISIT OF DOO KINGUE, GOUV MIN OF PLAN ASKED UN TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN ASSISTING THEM IN DEVELOPING A THIRD FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN. MINISTER ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT UN SHOULD CONTINUE TO PERFORM A SUPPORTIVE ROLE AND TO ASSIST GOUV IN MOBILIZING MULTI-DONOR INPUTS TO UPPER

VOLTA. THIS COINCIDES WITH POSITION OF UNDP RES REP, WHO BELIEVES HIS OFFICES SHOULD ACT AS A COORDINATING BODY FOR DONOR ASSIS-TANCE TO THE COUNTRY AND TO GENERATE INTEREST AMONG DONORS IN NEW DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTIONS. UN PROJECTS ARE BEING CONDUCTED IN THE FOLLOWING SECTORS: RURAL DEVELOPMENT, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, MINING, ENVIRONMENTAL AND TOURISM, EDUCATION, TRANS-PORTATION, URBANIZATION, PUBLICWORKS, HEALTH, FINANCE, AND PLANNING, THE UN MAKES A UNIQUE CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC PROGRESS IN UPPER VOLTA BECAUSE IT IS ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN POLI-TICALLY SENSITIVE DEVELOPMENT SECTORS WHERE THE GOUV IS NOT YET READY FOR BILATERAL ASSISTANCE. THESE SECTORS INCLUDE MINERAL RESEARCH AND COMMERCE AND TRADE PROMOTION. B. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: UNDP AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGEN-CIES ARE FACED WITH THE SAME PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROBLEMS AS ARE ALL DONORS IN UPPER VOLTA. COMMODITY PROCUREMENT FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY IS PLAGUED WITH TRANSPORTATION DELAYS WHICH EFFECT IMPLE-MENTATION OF PROJECTS. FORTUNATELY, DURING THE PAST YEAR, INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF TECHNICIANS HAS IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR UNDP PROJECTS. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION HAS ALSO BEEN IMPROVED BY INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF ASSOCIATE EXPERTS FINANCED BY INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS FOR UNDP PROJECTS. LOCAL CURRENCY CON-TRIBUTIONS HAVE INCREASED OVER THE PAST YEAR, AND HENCE, THE PROJECTS THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN STRENGTHENED. C. PROJECT EVALUATION BY UNDP: OVER THE PAST YEAR UNDP HAS FORMALIZED TRIPARTITE REVIEW SYSTEM WITH THE GOUV. THIS TRIPARTITE EVALUATION SYSTEM CONTINUES TO IDENTIFY PROBLEMS IN ONGOING

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PROJECTS AND A MUTUAL EFFORT IS MOUNTED TO RESOLVE THEM. REVIEWS ARE HELD ON THE AVERAGE OF ONCE A YEAR, BUT THIS MAY VARY. RECENTLY AS A RESULT OF THE SUCCESS OF THESE REVIEWS UNDP AND ALL ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES MET WITH GOUV COOPERATING MINISTRIES AND OPENLY DISCUSSED THEIR PROBLEMS, NOT ONLY CONCERNING INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS BUT ALSO SIDER ISSUES: SUCH AS UN RELATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PROGRAM PLANNING ISSUES. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO ASKED UN RES REP TO COMMENT ON UN PROBLEMS WITH GOUV. THESE EXCHANGES ARE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE UN/GOUV COOPERATION.

D. EXAMINATION OF UNDP RPOJECT PROPOSALS: THIS SYSTEM IS
NOT USED IN UPPER VOLTA. IN THE PAST THE MINISTRY OF PLAN WAS
FIRMLY OPPOSED TO ANY ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH A FORMAL EXTERNAL
DONOR COORDINATING MECHANISM AND, THEREFORE, COORDINATION HAS REMAINED AT INFORMAL LEVEL. DESPITE ITS INFORMALITY, IT HAS BEEN
RELATIVELY EFFECTIVE IN AVOIDING OVERLAP IN RAPIDLY INCREASING
DONOR PROGRAM HERE. NEW MINISTER OF PLAN HAS INDICATED THAT
A MORE FORMAL STRUCTURE MIGHT NOW BE ACCEPTABLE AND AID
REPRESENTATIVES WITH UNDP RES REP WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FORMAL EXTERNAL DONOR COORDINATING
MECHANISM.

E. COUNTRY PROGRAMMING: THE FIRST COUNTRY PROGRAM WAS PREPARED BASED ON VISITS OF A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY MISSION WITH

RESULTS THAT MANY INPUTS WERE DERIVED FROM EXTERNAL DELIBERATIONS. THE NEW PROGRAM WAS DEVELOPED BY UNDP EXPERTS WORKING IN UPPER VOLTA WITH MAXIMUM COORDINATION WITH RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES WHICH CONTRIBUTED SUBSTANTIVE SECTIONS OF THE PROGRAM, E.G. DIRECTOR OF PLAN WROTE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF THE PROGRAM. THE NEW PROGRAM FOR 1977-81 WAS PRESENTED TO GOUV IN AUGUST 1977 FOR ITS APPROVAL AND IT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL IN JANUARY 1978 ALONG WITH REGIONAL PROJECTS IN THE SAHEL AND PROGRAMS OF OTHER SAHELAIN COUNTRIES.

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IN ADDITION TO THE NEW PROGRAM FOR 1977-81 UNDP IS PLANNING THREE SECTOR STUDIES TO ASSIST GOUV IN ITS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE NATIONAL PLANNING. FAO HAS PRODUCED AN AGRICULTURAL STUDY THAT WILL ENTAIL AGRICULTURE PLANNING FOR NEXT FIFTEEN YEARS. IBRD AND UNESCO WILL PRODUCE A SIMILAR STUDY IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR AND UNIDO WILL PROVIDE AN INDUSTRIAL SECTOR STUDY. THESE STUDIES WILL BE WRITTEN INTERNALLY WITH UN PERSONNEL WORKING CLOSELY WITH RE-SPONSIBLE GOUV MINISTRY OFFICIALS. STUDIES WILL BE APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY EARLY 1979. UPON APPROVAL THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL DONOR COUNTIRES INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THESE SECTORS. INCORPORATED INTO ABOVE PROGRAM PLANNING ARE UNDP APPLICATION OF QTE NEW DIMENSIONS ENDQTE. NEW CONCEPTS INCLUDE LOCAL SUB-CONTRACTORS TO IMPLEMENT PROJECTS REPLACING TRADITIONAL PROJECT MANAGERS; JOING REPORTING ON PROJECT PROGRESS; TECHNICAL REPORTS GENERATED BY RPOJECTS AND STUDIES TO BE GOUV DOCUMENTS: AND A SYSTEM OF POST-PROJECT ASSISTANCE. THE UNDP IS ALSO EXPLORING THE CONCEPT OF MULTI-SECTORAL FUNDING WITH MINISTRY OF PLAN TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FLEXIBI-LITY. UNDP FINANCIAL CRISES OF 1975-76 HAS HAD SOME RESIDUAL EFFECT IN UPPER VOLTA, BUT MAJOR PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. F. PERFORMANCE OF THE UN SYSTEM: AS MENTIONED ABOVE THE UNDP RES REP HAS EFFECTIVELY CARRIED OUT HIS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN

COORDINATING UN FUNCTIONS IN COUNTRY WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS.

MOST APPARENT EXCEPTION IS WHO WHICH IS SEPARATELY REPRESENTED

BY AN AGENCY HEAD. THE WHO REPRESENTATIVE HAS A MORE DIRECT

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ADVISORY FUNCTION THAN DO OTHER UN AGENCIES PRESENT IN UPPER VOLTA. HE SITS ON THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AS A CLOSE ADVISOR TO MINISTER. HOWEVER, HIS ACTIVITIES ARE NOT COORDINATED WITH THOSE OF UNDP. UNDP PERFORMS CONTROLLER FUNCTIONS FOR WHO AND HAS FINANCED SOME WHO PROJECTS FROM ITS IPF ALTHOUGH THEY ARE IMPLEMENTED BY WHO REP. WHO REVIEWS ALL HEALTH ASPECTS OF UNDP DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. WHO, AS DO ALL SPECIALIZED AGENCY REPS, ATTEND UNDP BY-MONTHLY COORDINATION MEETINGS AND UNDP RES REP ATTENDS WHO, AND OTHER, STAFF MEETINGS. IBRD IN UPPER VOLTA DOES MAINTAIN SEPARATE IDENTITY FROM UNDP FAMILY BECAUSE OF FUNDING AND SEPARATION AT HEADOUARTER LEVEL. IBRD REP AND UNDP RES REP HAVE GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP. IBRD FUNDS JOIN PROGRAMS WITH UNDP SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, E.G. FAO AND UNESCO, AS A BASIC PRINCIPLE, RES REP BELIEVES UNDP SHOULD HAVE OVERALL RESPON-SIBILITY FOR ALL OPERATIONAL MATTERS WITHIN HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THOSE PROJECTS WHICH ARE BILATERALLY FUNDED AND IMPLEMENTED BY A UN AGENCY THROUGH A FUNDS IN TRUST ARRANGEMENT. RECENTL6, UNDP HAS WORKED OUT AN ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY UN SAHELIAN OFFICE OPERATIONS IN UPPER VOLTA WILL BE UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF UNDP RES REP EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE SEPARATE AT HEADQUARTERS LEVEL. ANOTHER DEMONSTRA-TION OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP PLAYED BY UNDP RES REP IN CO-ORDINATING ASSISTANCE IS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BI-MONTHLY MEETING OF ALL UN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BASED IN UPPER VOLTA TO AVOID ANY DUPLICATION OF ACTIVITIES. THESE INCLUDE UNSO, UNICEF AND USENCO.

G. WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT: THE CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER IN RES REP OFFICE IS AN AMERICAN WOMAN. CONCERN FOR WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT IS INTEGRATED INTO PROJECT UNDERTAKEN IN UPPER VOLTA ACCORDING TO RES REP. ONE SUCH PROJECT OF NOTE IS UNESCO-FUNDED EQUAL ACCESS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS TO EDUCATION. THIS PROJECT IS LOCATED IN THREE AREAS OF THE COUNTRY AND FOCUSES NOT ONLY ON EDUCATION BUT ALSO ON INTRODUCTION OF LABOR-SAVING, TIME-UNCLASSIFIED

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SAVING DEVICES. IN PROJECT VILLAGES, MOTORIZED MILLS AND CARTS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED. THE PROJECT HAS HAD LIMITED SUCCESS AND AT PRESENT U.S. AID IS FUNDING A PROJECT EVALUATION TO IDENTIFY PROBLEM AREAS TO AVOID SUCH PROBLEMS IN OUR OWN WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. UNESCO IS ALSO WORKING WITH THE FEDERATION OF VOLTAIC WOMEN WHICH IS COMPRISED OF FOUR VOLTAIC WOMEN ORGANI-

ZATIONS. RECENTLY UNESCO FUNDED A SEMINAR ON SEX EDUCATION IN OUAGADOUGOU.

H. SELF-RELIANCE AND MUTUAL SELF-HELP: THE CONCEPT OF TCDC WAS FIRST CONSIDERED BY A WORKING GROUP IN OUAGADOUGOU THAT WAS HEADED BY ARBA DIALLO, FORMER DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. UNDP INCOOPERATION WITH GOUV IS PRODUCING A REPORT THAT WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO BE HELD IN AUGUST 1978. THIS CONCEPT IS STILL IN ITS EARLY STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT IN UPPER VOLTA. UNDP IS CONSIDERING THE USE OF MORE EXPERTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. UNDP IS CONSTANTLY SEARCHING FOR WAYS TO IMPROVE REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERTS BETWEEN AFRICAN COUNTRIES. THIS CONCEPT HAS BEEN VERY FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY THE GOUV. GRAHAM

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